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NEWS RELEASE

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UM PROFESSOR NAMED FULBRIGHT 'NEW CENTURY SCHOLAR'

MISSOULA--

University of Montana political science Professor Peter Koehn is among 12 U.S. scholars and professionals to receive a \$40,000 research grant from the Fulbright New Century Scholars Program.

A three-time Fulbright award recipient, Koehn will join 30 researchers from around the world in inaugurating the prestigious new program, whose goal is to engage scholars and professionals in multidisciplinary collaboration on topics of substantial global significance.

The first year's research theme, "Challenges of Health in a Borderless World," aims to facilitate a deeper understanding of the social context within which societies, nations and the global community shape their response to disease.

Koehn will meet his fellow New Century Scholars at an orientation on Lake Como in Bellagio, Italy, Oct. 29 to Nov. 2. He will conduct his research project next summer at the University of Joensuu in Finland, where he will study the physical and mental health needs of migrant populations.

"This is an incredible opportunity to learn from the exciting ideas and insights for improving global health that my colleagues will be sharing," Koehn said.

His project, "Transnational Competence and Migrant Health in a Borderless World," will

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include interviews with patients and providers in Finnish asylum and health-care centers. He expects his findings to contribute to the identification of innovative and effective strategies for strengthening transnational public health.

Koehn's project builds on the work of renowned political theorist James N. Rosenau, who spoke at the 1999 President's Lecture Series at UM, and with whom Koehn worked during his sabbatical last year.

The New Century Scholars will reconvene in November 2002 for a final plenary seminar in Washington, D.C.

Koehn, the founding director of UM's Office of International Programs, teaches courses in development administration, the politics of global migration and comparative politics. In 1999, UM recognized his work with the Distinguished Service to International Education Award. Koehn's previous Fulbright awards took him to Nigeria and Hong Kong.

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